

REMARKS

Claims 2-5 and 7-18 have been canceled. Amended claims 1 and 6 are in this application.

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent Application Publication 2001/0034846 ("Berry") in view of United States Patent 7,203,966 ("Abburi").

Amended independent claim 1 recites in part the following:

"each of the at least two electronic devices including:

first requesting means . . . ;

installing means . . . ;

second requesting means . . . ;

running means . . . ;

means for causing information to be supplied to the respective electronic device which identifies each electronic device currently available to receive the selected software by transfer if a request to do so is made; and

third requesting means for requesting that the server transfer the selected software from the respective electronic device to another of the at least two electronic devices which has the same user associated therewith as that of the respective electronic device and which is selected by use of the information which identifies said each electronic device currently available to receive the selected software by transfer; and

the server including:

registering means . . . ;

providing means . . . ;

generating means . . . ; and

transferring means for, upon a request by the third requesting means of the respective electronic device to transfer the selected software to the another electronic device, deleting the software identification information for the selected software and the user identification information and the device identification information registered in association with the software identification information for the respective electronic device, and registering the software identification information for the selected software in association with the device identification information for the another electronic device and the user identification information, such that the respective electronic device is prohibited from purchasing software and such that the another electronic device is allowed to run the selected software." (Emphasis added.)

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Berry and Abburi applied by the Examiner does not appear to specifically disclose the above-identified features of claim 1. As an example, such applied combination does not appear to disclose "transferring means for . . . deleting the software identification information for the selected software and the user identification information and the device identification information registered in association with the software identification information for the respective electronic device . . . such that the respective electronic device is prohibited from purchasing software," as now recited in claim 1. Support for such feature is believed to be provided in the present application. With regard thereto and as an example, reference is made to paragraph 0096 of the present application. Additionally, such applied combination of Berry and Abburi does

not appear to specifically disclose "means for causing information to be supplied to the respective electronic device which identifies each electronic device currently available to receive the selected software by transfer if a request to do so is made" and "third requesting means for requesting that the server transfer the selected software from the respective electronic device to another of the at least two electronic devices which has the same user associated therewith . . . and which is selected by use of the information which identifies said each electronic device currently available to receive the selected software by transfer" (which may be supplied by the means for causing) as now recited in claim 1.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those previously described with regard to claim 1, it is also respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 6 is also distinguishable from the applied combination of Berry and Abburi.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been overcome, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional rejections and/or objections which the Examiner might have.

Application No.: 10/699,984

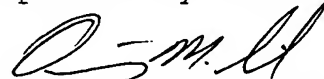
Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-346

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By



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